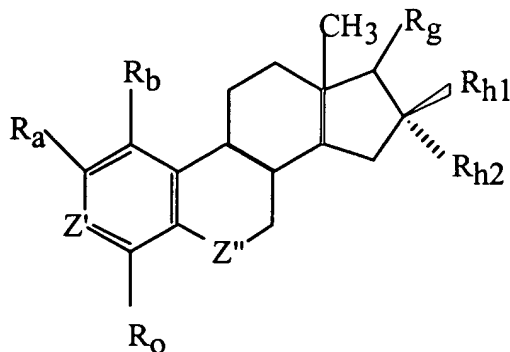
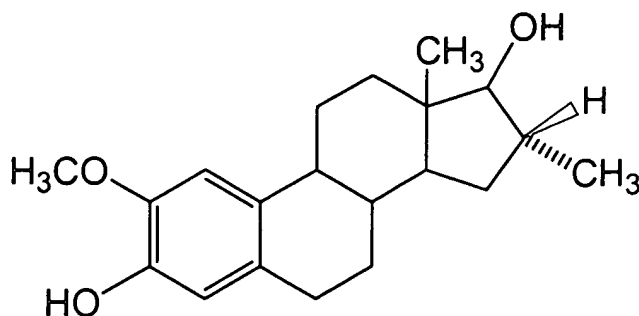


Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, for the following reasons. Claim 17 depends from Claim 11, and further specifies that R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and Me. Claim 11 depends from Claim 10, and further specifies that R_b and R_o are H, R_a is OCH_3 , Z' is $>C-OH$, $>C-R_g$ is $>C(H)-\beta-OH$, and Z'' is $>CH_2$. Claim 10 is drawn to a method of inhibiting angiogenesis comprising administering to an endothelial cell an angiogenesis inhibiting amount of a compound of the general formula:



where possible choices for R_b , R_o , R_a , Z' , $>C-R_g$, Z'' , R_{h1} and R_{h2} are provided. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 17, through its dependency on Claim 11 which depends from Claim 10, unambiguously defines *each* substituent of the formula shown above, and therefore unambiguously defines a single compound. Claim 17 provides that R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and Me, not H “or” Me, therefore Claim 17 constitutes the election of a single species. The formula of the elected species of Claim 17 is set forth below:



If the Examiner requires this election of species to further denote the geometry of the R_{h1} and R_{h2} substituents H and Me, Applicants hereby specify the 16- α -CH₃ isomer.

Applicants do not believe that examining each species within Group II would constitute a serious burden (MPEP § 803), therefore, Applicants respectfully request, to the extent possible, that a search of the other species within Group II be made.

Conclusion

Applicants believe this Response is fully responsive to the Office Action mailed August 8, 2002 in the above-identified patent application. Applicants further believe that the claims are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes any informalities remain in the application that may be corrected by Examiner's Amendment, or there are any other issues that can be resolved by telephone interview, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at (404) 815-6500 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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